

REMARKS

The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences issued a Decision on Appeal dated August 11, 2008 in which the Board affirmed the rejection(s) against independent claims 1, 15, 17, 18 and 31. However, the rejection of dependent claims 2-14, 16, 19-30 and 32-44 were withdrawn before the application was sent to the Board and are allowable except for their dependency on the affirmed claims. Applicant was given one month to place the claims in independent form.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of allowable claim 8. Independent claim 15 has been amended to include the limitation of allowable claim 16. Independent claim 18 has been amended to include the limitation of allowable claim 25. Independent claim 31 has been amended to include the limitation of allowable claim 38. Claims 8, 16, 17, 25 and 38 have been canceled.

The Applicant asserts that these amendments place the claims in condition for allowance. If minor problems persist, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned attorney.

In the event there are additional charges in connection with the filing of this Response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account No. 50-0714/IBM/0026 of the firm of the below-signed attorney in the amount of any necessary fee.

Respectfully submitted,

STREETS & STEELE

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